

Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, YO
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV-EEC MIXED COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 31 TO
FEBRUARY 3

REF: BELGRADE 6197, 6456

1. SUMMARY: AT MIXED COMMITTEE MEETING BEGINNING
JANUARY 31, YUGOSLAWS WILL PRESS FOR ELIMINATION OF
EEC BAN ON YUGOSLAV BEEF EXPORTS; BETTER ACCESS FOR
CANNED PORK PRODUCTS, CHEESE AND TOBACCO; AND EEC
INITIATIVES TO STIMULATE INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AND
JOINT VENTURES. THEY UNDERSTAND EEC CONSIDERING NEW
SYSTEM OF LEVIES ON BEEF IMPORTS. END SUMMARY.

2. ASSISTANT FOREIGN TRADE SECRETARY ZIBERNA HAS
INFORMED US THAT SHE WILL HEAD YUGOSLAV DELEGATION AT
MIXED COMMITTEE MEETING WITH EEC IN BRUSSELS, JANUARY
31 TO FEBRUARY 3.

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3. PRINCIPAL ITEM ON GOY AGENDA, SHE SAID, WILL BE

RENEWED REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF COSTLY BAN ON YUGOSLAV BEEF EXPORTS. NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT ARE STILL "VERY VERY DIFFICULT," SHE ADDED, AND THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS WHEN BAN WILL BE LIFTED.

4. YUGOSLAVS WILL EXPLORE INFORMATION THEY HAVE RECEIVED THAT EEC DEVELOPING NEW VARIABLE LEVY SYSTEM. SOME ASPECTS OF REPORTED NEW SYSTEM--HIGHER LEVIES AND BROADER APPLICATION--WOULD BE UNFAVORABLE FOR YUGOSLAV BEEF EXPORTERS, BUT ANOTHER ASPECT--SEMIPERMANENCE OF LEVELS, IN PLACE OF EARLIER FREQUENT CHANGES--WOULD BE FAVORABLE. ANY NEW SYSTEM BASED ON LEVIES WOULD BE BETTER THAN CURRENT VIRTUALLY TOTAL BAN ON MEAT SHIPMENTS, MRS. ZIBERNA COMMENTED.

5. DELEGATION WILL ALSO PRESS FOR BETTER ACCESS TO EEC MARKETS FOR YUGOSLAV CANNED HAM AND OTHER PORK PRODUCTS, CHEESE, FISH AND TOBACCO. "SOLUTION HAS STILL NOT BEEN FOUND" TO PROBLEM OF SUBSTANTIAL DECLINE IN YUGOSLAV CANNED PORK EXPORTS AS RESULT OF UK JOINING COMMON MARKET. TOBACCO SALES ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT PROBLEM SINCE THEY ORIGINATE IN YUGOSLAVIA'S LEAST DEVELOPED REGIONS. ALL YUGOSLAV REQUESTS WILL BE NON-PREFERENTIAL IN CHARACTER.

6. IN INDUSTRIAL AREA, YUGOSLAV DELEGATION WILL SEEK EEC INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS--INCLUDING INVESTMENT--DESIGNED TO INCREASE YUGOSLAV EXPORT CAPABILITIES. GOY REALIZES THAT ARRANGEMENTS OF THIS KIND MUST BE WORKED OUT BY INDIVIDUAL FIRMS, MRS. ZIBERNA ADDED, BUT NEVERTHELESS FEELS THAT EEC SHOULD ENGAGE ITSELF MORE THAN HERETOFORE IN STIMULATING INTEREST, SO THAT YUGOSLAVIA CAN OVERCOME HEAVY TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE NINE.

7. FINAL SUBJECT ON AGENDA WILL BE YUGOSLAV BRIEFING ON GUEST WORKER SITUATION, PARTICULARLY ON ASPECTS IN WHICH EEC HAS SOME AUTHORITY (QUALIFICATIONS, TRANSFER OF PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES, ETC.).
TOON

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